

THE HALVORSON LAW FIRM, P.C.**To:** Ms. Norma VillaRivera**From:** Kristofer Halvorson**Fax:** (703) 308-4556**Pages:** 5**Phone:** (703) 308-0377**Date:** May 2, 2002**Re:** Pat App Ser No. 09/808,275**Our File:** 530-013**CC:**☐ **Urgent** ☐ **For Review** ☐ **Please Comment** ☐ **Please Reply** ☐ **Please Recycle****-STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL-**

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• Comments:

Please see the attached replacement Preliminary Amendment for the above referenced patent application.

Sincerely,


Kristofer Halvorson**FAX RECEIVED**

MAY 03 2002

GROUP 1600

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Nelson et al.
Filed: Simultaneously Herewith
Serial No.:
For: Mass Spectrometric Immunoassay
Atty. Docket No.: 530-013

Box Fee Amendment
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Preliminary Amendment

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-specified application, kindly amend the subject application as follows:

AMENDMENTS**In the Specification:**

As the first paragraph, please insert the following paragraph:

This application is a continuation of pending application serial no. 09/024,988
filed on 02/17/98, which was a continuation of original application serial no.
08/449,903, which was filed on 5/23/95, now abandoned.

In the Claims:

Please cancel the pending claims and include the following new claims:

48 A method for determining whether a specimen contains a certain analyte species, comprising the steps of:

- a. capturing and isolating the certain analyte species from the specimen, said step of capturing and isolating involving the use of an affinity reagent having a specific affinity for the certain analyte species;